Sub-Brokers) Regulations, 1992, the stock brokers are required to take adequate steps for redressal of grievances of the investors within one month of the date of receipt of the complaint. Similar provisions exist under the SEBI (Depositories and Participants) Regulations, 1996 for grievances received against the depository participants.

In case of violation of any rules, regulations and guidelines by the Stock Brokers and Depository participants, SEBI takes action against them in terms of the applicable Rules, Regulations, SEBI Act and Depositories Act, as warranted. SEBI also conducts special purpose inspections of the stock brokers and depository participants based on the complaints received against them.

(c) It is the constant endeavour of the Government and SEBI to ensure smooth and efficient functioning of the stock exchanges and depositories. Complaints received by the Government from investors, as and when received, are forwarded to SEBI for appropriate action. SEBI has made it mandatory for the stock brokers to get their half yearly internal audit done by independent chartered Accountants/Company Secretaries/Cost and Management Accountants; which covers various areas including their investor grievance handling mechanism. With a view to bring in more transparency in the grievance redressal available in the stock exchanges, SEBI has also directed stock exchanges to disclose all investor complaints and arbitration details on their websites.

New pharma colleges in Maharashtra

†1286. SHRI BALAVANT *ALIAS* BAL APTE:
SHRI ANIL MADHAV DAVE:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government has received any proposal from the State Government of Maharashtra for setting up new pharma degree colleges in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when this proposal is expected to be approved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI S. GANDHISELVAN): (a) to (c) No proposal from the Government of Maharashtra for setting up new degree Pharmacy Colleges has been received.

Parity of Physiotherapists with MBBS and BDS traction

1287. SHRI MANGALA KISAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether matter of parity of physiotherapists with MBBS and BDS has ever been examined by any independent committee;

(b) if so, the details, including findings, thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI S. GANDHISELVAN): (a) to (c) The matter of parity of Physiotherapists with MBBS and BDS was examined by the Vth Central Pay Commission and not agreed to. The educational qualification and the nature of duties of Physiotherapists are not comparable to those of MBBS doctors and BDS (Dental Surgeons). Further, the Physiotherapists like medical practitioners do not diagnose, investigate, prescribe, treat and follow up patients with various diseases. The Physiotherapists are required to take the advice of doctors with in regard to starting of physiotherapy or occupational therapy and continuing such treatment.

Shortage of typhoid vaccine

1288. SHRIMATI SYEDA ANWARA TAIMUR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that there is acute shortfall of vaccines in the country;

(b) whether Government is also aware that this shortage has occurred due to closure of three important laboratories in the country;

(c) whether Government is also aware that the vaccine particularly typhoid vaccine has not been available for the last six months; and

(d) if so, the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) There is no shortage of Vaccines under Universal Immunization Programme (UIP) in the country at present. However, for some months in 2008, there were shortages of Diptheria-Pertusis-Tetanus (DPT), Tetanus Toxoid (TT) and Diptheria Tetanus (DT) in some States due to non-fulfillment of supply commitments by manufacturers. These were overcome by October, 2008, and since then there have been no shortages.

(c) and (d) Vaccination for typhoid is not a part of Universal Immunization Programme.

Food Regulatory Authority

1289. SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN:
SHRI N.K. SINGH:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has recently set up Food Regulatory Authority (FRA) and appointed representatives of food giants as members of its key scientific panels;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the interest of consumers are at risk as major food giants have been nominated on the watch dog body;

(d) if so, the reasons of appointing representatives of food giants on FRA; and